

Quotes for Thought from

Climate Church Climate World How People of Faith Must Work for Change **by Jim Antal**

p. 9 "I used to think that if we threw enough good science at the environmental problems, we could solve them. I was wrong. The main threats to the environment are not biodiversity loss, pollution, and climate change, as I once thought. They are selfishness and greed and pride. And for that we need a spiritual and cultural transformation." James "Gus" Speth

p. 25-26 "The great question now facing the church is whether our faith allows us to live in a new way... the power of the future is not in the hands of those who believe in scarcity and monopolize the world's resources; it is in the hands of those who trust in God's abundance." Walter Bruggemann

p. 41 "The Earth is sufficient for everyone's needs but not for everyone's greed." Gandhi

p. 56 "One of the most distinguishing features of the American ethos is our centuries-long emphasis on rugged individualism. The church's concentration on personal salvation has amplified this theme considerably. While there was a time when this emphasis served an important purpose, we now realize that all of life – not only humans but also the rest of creation – is characterized by interdependence. The lives of all living things are woven together in a common destiny. A repurposed church will focus as much theological attention on collective salvation as it will on personal salvation."

p. 57 "In a repurposed church, the first question people will ask about climate change will not be: How will it affect me? Instead it will be something like: How can I help my neighbors to thrive? How can I build a more resilient community? What changes can I make in my life so that generations to come are more likely to inherit a habitable world?"

pp. 58-59 "We are called to love our neighbors as ourselves ... and we must recognize that future generations are no less our neighbors than those who live next door today. We can think of this as Golden Rule 2.0.... No longer is it morally adequate to expand our understanding of justice to include in the circle of neighborly treatment more distant neighbors. We must recognize that all people, indeed all creatures alive and all those yet to be born, are our neighbors. ... God is calling us to reorient our hearts, our lives, and our laws so that we honor and respect the interdependence of all of creation."

p. 65 "Leaders of spiritual communities are not needed to comfort people feeling lost in times of change. Instead, spiritual leaders need to help transform fears into urgency and courage."

Diana Butler Bass

p.81 "If the future is going to be different, we have to go far beyond these little piecemeal gestures and begin to see the systems in which we're embedded... What would it take to shift the whole? ... When all is said and done, the only change that will make a difference is the transformation of the human heart." *Peter Senge*

pp.127-128 "If you're not already doing so, make a commitment today to cultivate wonder by appreciating and contemplating the beauty of creation--which is God's great gift to us. Precisely because it falls on our generation to take on the great challenge of climate change, we must persistently take in God's great gift of creation by appreciating and contemplating its beauty."

p. 137 "We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history there is such a thing as being too late... Over the bleached bones and jumbled residue of numerous civilizations are written the pathetic words: *Too late.*" *Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr*

pp. 168-169 "[Jesus'] supreme work is to reconcile us to God and to one another and, indeed, to reconcile us to all of God's creation. It is possible to have a new kind of world, a world where there will be more compassion, more gentleness, more caring, more laughter, more joy for all of God's creation, because that is God's dream. And God says, 'Help me, help me, help me realize my dream.' " "God is calling all of us to unleash our imaginations, unmuzzle our mouths, unbind our hands, unshackle our feet, and open our wallets. Each of us must use our God-given gifts to hasten the day when each human heart is governed not by grief but by hope, not by constraint, but by generosity, not by selfishness, but by sharing." Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Climate Revival Conference Saturday, Feb. 9, 2019, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Plymouth United Church of Christ, Waveland Hall 9:00-9:15

Register @ <https://iowaip.org> there is no cost to attend the conference but registration allows us to determine attendance numbers. A free will offering will be collected at lunch.

9:00-9:15 Register/socialize, coffee and rolls

9:15-9:30 Welcome and opening prayer: Matt Mardis-LeCroy, Senior Minister, Plymouth Church

9:30-9:45 Condition of the Climate: Dr. Justin Glisan, Iowa State Climatologist (Brief overview of facts, figures and what's happening in Iowa)

9:45-10:45 Keynote: Rev. Jim Antal, author of Climate Church, Climate World: How People of Faith Must Work for Change Followed by Q&A

10:45-11:00 Break 11:00-12:30 Climate Action Panel: Facilitated by Pat Boddy, agricultural engineer, former executive director of the Polk County Conservation Commission, former deputy director of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and radio and TV journalist
Panel members: • David Osterberg, professor in the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health at the University of Iowa, a former Iowa state representative, and founder of the Iowa Policy Project • Matt Russell, executive director Iowa Interfaith Power and Light and sustainable farmer • Cindy Lane, landscape architect and water issues lead at Iowa Environmental Council • Christopher Anderson, meteorologist, agricultural scientist and former Iowa State University professor • Nikira Hernandez-Evans, Associate Minister, Plymouth Church, of Native American ancestry, and an environmental justice activist Followed by Q&A

12:30-1:00 Lunch (provided) Lunch conversation: Witnessing for Climate Carolyn Walker, Des Moines Citizen's Taskforce on Sustainability Channing Dutton, Des Moines attorney and environmental activist

1:00-1:45 Tabletop discussions facilitated by Pat Boddy

1:45-2:15 Covenant Groups: Rev. Nikira Hernandez-Evans Personal commitments and signing Climate Covenants

2:15-2:30 Closing reflections on commitment, connections, and action: Jim Antal

2:30-2:45 Wrap-up and closing prayer